25th January 1928]

A.—(*a*) The amount spent up to the end of 1926–27 was Rs. 50,315. Later figures are not available with the Government.

(*b*) & (*c*) Information is not available.

(*d*) It is proposed to transfer 917 acres hitherto irrigated by the Kaikavole channel to the Pagdi branch of the Thossipudi channel when that has been remodelled.

(*e*) The question is not understood.

Extension of the Kistna delta by forming a high-flood channel.

* 1410 Q.—The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI : With reference to the answer to my question No. 907 answered on 23rd October 1927, regarding the extension of Kistna delta by forming a high-flood channel, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the local Public Works Department officers have inspected the site and taken levels or whether the opinions received from them are based on theoretical assumption ;

(*b*) whether he will place on the table the reports received from the abovesaid officers ;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that a Tank Restoration Scheme is formed to investigate the scheme of utilizing the water in the Budameru during floods ?

(*d*) whether the Government will be pleased to consider the desirability of constituting a committee consisting of the local Council members and of the District Public Works Department officers to investigate thoroughly into the schemes and report the fact to the Government ?

A.—(*a*) No inspection has been made recently ; but the opinions given are based on known facts.

(*b*) A copy of the Superintending Engineer's note is laid on the table.[a]

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The Government do not propose to appoint such a committee.

Police

Appointment of Mr. Ryan as Municipal Engineer, Trichinopoly.

* 1411 Q.—Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the letter sent to the Chairman, Municipal Council, Trichinopoly, by the Town Circle Inspector, Trichinopoly, on the 11th September 1927, and circulated by the latter to all the members of the municipal council for their guidance and necessary action, protesting against the appointment as acting Municipal Engineer of Mr. J. D. Ryan, was written by him under orders from the Inspector-General of Police or Deputy Inspector-General of Police, or the District Superintendent of Police, Trichinopoly ;

(*b*) whether the charges mentioned in the above letter have been proved in a court of law ;

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 335–336 infra.

(c) under what rules, and on what authority was the letter referred to in clause (a) written by the Town Circle Inspector, Trichinopoly, to the Chairman, Municipal Council, and what right have the Police to interfere with such appointments which are vested in the municipal council;

(d) whether, if, as is alleged in that letter, the testimonials in possession of Mr. Ryan were forged and not genuine, any steps were taken by the Police to establish their bogus character and when;

(e) whether Mr. Ryan was ever warned by the Police not to make use of them; and

(f) whether these facts were brought by the Police to the notice of the Government and any steps taken to prosecute Mr. Ryan?

A.—(a) The letter was written under the orders of the District Superintendent of Police, Trichinopoly, and was marked 'Confidential'.

(b) He was charged by the Delhi Police under section 406, Indian Penal Code, but the case ended in acquittal.

(c) The Police did not interfere with any appointment. The municipality being a public body, the District Superintendent of Police, Trichinopoly, considered it advisable to suggest to the Chairman that proper enquiries might be made about the antecedents of the man.

(d) The use of forged testimonials is not an offence of which the Police can take cognizance without a complaint from some party affected.

(e) No information is now available.

(f) No.

Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar :—"Referring to the answer to clause (c), may I ask the hon. the Law Member whether it is proper that confidential Criminal Investigation Department records should be communicated to and discussed in Council to the detriment of the character of the person concerned."

The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar :—"What the Chairman did is a different matter. A letter was written marked 'Confidential' and the Chairman placed it before the public body. The fault if any was of the Chairman."

Service records of Mr. J. D. Ryan.

* 1412 *Q.*—Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the records in possession of the Police which have led the Town Circle Inspector, Trichinopoly, to write a letter of warning to the Chairman, Municipal Council, Trichinopoly, were in existence at the time Mr. Ryan was appointed Principal of the Chengalvarayan Technical Institute, Madras;

(b) whether any attempt was made by the Police officers in Madras to warn the Department of Industries to make enquiries regarding his antecedents and the certificates he held;

(c) what is the criminal breach of trust to which reference is made by the Police Inspector, Trichinopoly, and when and where was Mr. Ryan tried for it; and